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From: Jon Sherman [mailto:jonathan.sherman16@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, October 14, 2018 7:48 PM
To: Hardin, Shannon G.
Cc: Blevins, Angie N.; Brown, Elizabeth; Brown, Mitchell J.; Hanna, Jennifer N.; Page, Jaiza N.; Remy, Emmanuel V.; Stinziano, Michael PG.; Tyson, Priscilla R.
Subject: Ticket tax for the arts

Dear Mr. Hardin,

I am writing in support of the proposed 7% ticket tax to support the arts in Columbus. I run the film program at Kenyon College and am a Columbus filmmaker. Support of the arts is vital to the growth of our city. We are just at the point where Columbus is being recognized as a creative capital of the midwest but we are being crushed by Cleveland and Cincinnati in terms of attracting film production to our city. The Columbus film commission and GCAC desperately need more support if we are to compete in this arena. We have the 30% tax credit that is helping films come to our state, but only 7% (!) of the productions that film in Ohio come to Columbus. Yet we are the most populous city in the state. This is crazy.

Revenue from the ticket tax will also help us compete with Pennsylvania, which also gets many more films than we do. We really can compete with Pittsburgh for film productions, but not until we provide more support for Film Columbus. I hope you and the City Council will do the right thing and pass this much-needed proposal. Thank you.

Best regards,

Jon Sherman
Associate Professor of Film
Kenyon College